

The Lexington Gazette

VOL. 107, NO. 32

LEXINGTON, VIRGINIA, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9, 1911

\$1.00 PER YEAR

CONDENSED BUDGET OF CURRENT NEWS

Brief and Interesting Items for the
Busy Reader

To economize on fuel and keep a kitchen cooler in summer there has been invented a false bottom for a range firebox, which will hold just enough coal to cook a meal.

Edmond Shifflett, 80 years old, a Confederate veteran of Beldor, Rockingham county, has been wearing regularly since 1861 a hand-made plaited straw hat. It was made by his sister, the late Mrs. Barbara Davis, and is a skillful piece of hand-work.

Dr. Ernest C. Levy, chief health officer of Richmond, has come to the conclusion after close comparative study of the mortality statistics of Richmond and other cities, that the American negro is slowly and steadily dying out and will be virtually extinct in the twenty-first century. "The colored race," he points out "with 38 per cent of the population of Richmond, has 96 per cent, the deaths and the birth rate is equally against the colored race."

Unable, she said, to "make a man" of her husband, Anna Langley, a frail woman, 19 years old, of San Francisco, a few days ago shot and killed him. They had been married fifteen months. Early in the day James Langley left home, saying he didn't intend to return. Mrs. Langley bought a revolver and started to hunt her husband. She found him in a saloon. The wife fired four shots. One struck Langley and he died on the way to a hospital. Mrs. Langley was arrested. "I have supported my husband and myself," she said, "by working as a stenographer. I tried to make him stay away from saloons. I endured his abuse. I tried to instill some ambition into him and coach him for the fireman's civil service examination. He would not try. I could endure no more."

Explanation of Staunton's Vote

Staunton voted "wet" by a majority of 103. The "dry" majority two years ago was 25. The negro registration four years ago was four; two years ago it was about 75; this year it was about 250. That is the explanation of the result. The increased registration of negroes was accomplished by the saloon interests. But the saloon could not have registered the negroes without the consent of the registrar. What have the politicians to say concerning this registration of negroes? They could have prevented it had they desired to do so. Are the saloon and politicians in league together, and are the negroes to be brought back into our political life by the saloon with the consent, if not with the active assistance of the politician?

This is a vital question, and upon this hinges the future of prohibition in Virginia. The saloon prospers on the damnation of men. What does it care if the negro has the balance of power?—Richmond Christian Advocate.

The Glidden Tour

Word comes from New York that the Glidden Tour this year will take place in October from that city to Jacksonville, Fla., via the National Highway. If this be true then the great number of motorists from all over the country who annually enter this great event will pass right through Lexington. The Glidden Tour is the biggest thing of its kind that is pulled off. Several big tours have come this way in the past, but none of these was anything like as large or as important as this one. It is national in scope and from the motorists' point of view is the supreme event of the year. Our local automobilists as well as the public generally are to be congratulated on his opportunity they will have of seeing the Gliddenists.

Must we regretfully admit that the good old times have departed? Will "court day" never come again? Has the automobile in supplanting "man's best friend" reduced horse trading to the level of stock gambling and highway robbery?

DOES A RING RULE IN OLD VIRGINIA?

Richmond News-Leader Convinced That It Does

SO DOES HON. C. V. MEREDITH

Long Letter Published Attacking
The Machine

The Richmond News-Leader of last Wednesday published a lengthy letter from Hon. Chas. V. Meredith of Richmond, attacking the record of Senator Martin, and in the same issue of that paper the following editorial appeared:

"That Senator Thomas S. Martin was and was known as a railroad lobbyist before his election to the Senate is the conclusion that Charles V. Meredith drives home in an article printed in The News-Leader."

"Mr. Meredith, after summing up the evidence, declares that while a mathematical demonstration of Senator Martin's railroad services in matters of legislation is not to be had, yet under the rules by which an ordinary man would guide his conduct or form his opinions, Senator Martin is fairly chargeable with having been a railroad lobbyist, both before and after 1891. 'Why, then,' asks Mr. Meredith, 'did Senator Martin deny this charge, and why has he offered no positive and concrete disproof?' The State of Virginia may well echo 'Why?'"

"In their campaign speeches, Mr. Jones and Mr. Glass have alleged repeatedly that there is a ring within the Democratic party which effectively controls the State and ruthlessly stamps out opposition by proscribing all candidates for office or for preferment who are not willing to do the bidding of the ring. In support of this charge the opponents, Senators Martin and Swanson, point to the fact that those gentlemen largely control the State's most important officials, and the following examples are cited:

"It was the compact between practical and prohibition politicians that elected Governor Mann, and the governor has never forgotten that debt.

"It was in payment of the political debts of Governor Swanson that Judge W. F. Rhea was put on the corporation commission, and it was at the 'request' of Senator Martin that Mr. Wingfield, a personal friend and political ally of Senator Martin's, received his appointment to the same office.

"It was in defiance of the constitution and against the welfare of the State that W. McDonald Lee, a ring supporter, had his salary raised while in office and was twice appointed fish commissioner of Virginia.

"It was when Senator Daniel died that there were out of all Virginia only two names considered for the appointive term—Congressman Flood and Ex-Governor Swanson—both members of the inner circle—only these two in a State which has Henry C. Stuart, Harry St. George Tucker, Andrew Jackson Montague, Edwin Anderson Alderman, Allen Caperton Braxton, George H. Denney, Eppa Hunton, Jr., W. A. Anderson, Colonel Archer Anderson—but why call the roll?"

"It was Governor Swanson who permitted the pay-rolls during his term to be increased \$300,000 and almost bankrupted the treasury.

"It was Governor Mann, then Senator Mann, who got through a bill increasing by 30 per cent the compensation of office-holders paid by the iniquitous fee system, and it was Governor Swanson who signed that bill.

"These are the statements that are made in support of a contention that a ring dominates Virginia, and we have collected them without passion and without prejudice, being content to give the facts, to turn on the lights, and to leave the results to the common sense and the patriotism of the State."

The Honduran government has granted a concession to a company to search for deposits of oil believed to exist in that republic.

Public Control of Corporations Will Stop All Abuses of Capitalization

By THEODORE N. VAIL, President of American Telephone and Telegraph Company



The proper use of corporate organization or combination under PROPER regulation or control cannot be objected to.

What is and should be condemned, prevented and punished is the abuse made of corporate machinery to the DETRIMENT of public welfare and such abuse as has been and is being practiced so extensively for purely speculative and oftentimes SWINDLING enterprises.

PUBLIC CONTROL OR REGULATION OF PUBLIC SERVICE CORPORATIONS BY PERMANENT COMMISSIONS HAS COME, AND COME TO STAY. SUCH CONTROL AND REGULATION CAN AND SHOULD STOP ALL ABUSES OF CAPITALIZATION, OF EXTORTION OR OF OVERCHARGES, OF UNREASONABLE DIVISION OF PROFITS.

Governmental control should protect the investor as well as the public. It should insure to the public good service and fair rates.

Prohibition Ticket This Fall for Augusta County

From what can be gathered there is to be a fight to the finish this fall in Augusta between the Prohibition and the Democratic candidates.

Various rumors have been going the rounds since Staunton's local option election resulted in a victory of the "wets" by a majority of 103, and Thursday's Staunton Leader had the following regarding the situation:

"The 'dry' voters of Staunton, apparently with unanimous assent, have arrived at the conclusion that the time has come to cut loose from all incumbrances that lie in the way of getting rid of the saloon, and to strike out independently for the accomplishment of that result.

"Messages poured in all day Wednesday and Thursday from leading citizens of various parts of the county of Augusta urging a straight independent fight, and at an informal, and largely accidental meeting of a number of the dry leaders Wednesday night the decision was reached to put a full legislative ticket in the field as soon as the right men could be agreed on and induced to run. They declared openly that the fight would be made, and made in earnest.

"Prospective candidates, it was understood, would not be agreed upon until conferences with the county people could be had."

The will of George Washington is not exhibited on Sunday, even though the Vice-President of the United States requests it. The story runs that Vice President Sherman, an ardent motorist, accompanied by friends took a spin last Sunday in Virginia. Reaching Fairfax Courthouse, they decided they would like to see the original will drawn by the first president. The party was directed first to the home of the deputy clerk of the county. The deputy expressed regret, but quite positively informed the Vice-President that the rules forbade the courthouse, where the document is kept in a glass case, being opened on Sunday. Finding the official obdurate, the party repaired to the home of his chief, some distance away. The clerk, however, was as strongly rule bound as his deputy, and the Vice-President and his friends left for Washington with their curiosity unsatisfied.

CORPORATE organization and combination are the necessary and logical solution of the problem of caring for the wonderful development which has been going on all over the world and PARTICULARLY in this country.

That there has been in a large measure reason or cause for the existing UNFAVORABLE public opinion as to corporations, trusts and combinations is beyond question. But it does not follow that there is reason or cause for the wholesale denunciation and condemnation of ALL corporations, trusts and combinations.

The proper use of corporate organization or combination under PROPER regulation or control cannot be objected to.

What is and should be condemned, prevented and punished is the abuse made of corporate machinery to the DETRIMENT of public welfare and such abuse as has been and is being practiced so extensively for purely speculative and oftentimes SWINDLING enterprises.

PUBLIC CONTROL OR REGULATION OF PUBLIC SERVICE CORPORATIONS BY PERMANENT COMMISSIONS HAS COME, AND COME TO STAY. SUCH CONTROL AND REGULATION CAN AND SHOULD STOP ALL ABUSES OF CAPITALIZATION, OF EXTORTION OR OF OVERCHARGES, OF UNREASONABLE DIVISION OF PROFITS.

Governmental control should protect the investor as well as the public. It should insure to the public good service and fair rates.

Report Made on Lynchburg-Natural Bridge Route

Mr. C. De Mott, the engineer for the Lynchburg Automobile Club having charge of surveying and improving the short route between Lynchburg and Natural Bridge, has gone over the route and now has a force of hands at work improving the road. In his report of the result of his trip of inspection, Mr. De Mott said, with reference to the road towards the Natural Bridge end:

"Snowden to Old Balcony Falls; through and not over the Blue Ridge mountain. This is the missing link and is a part of the Lexington turnpike. This is a road that has been out of use for fifteen years, but is on a good shale foundation, was graded out twenty feet wide and probably is the prettiest stretch of scenic road in Virginia, as it follows the James River through the mountain. The steepest grade on it is seven per cent.

"At Old Balcony Falls, the road is narrow for a short distance and should be driven over with cars under control.

"Old Balcony Falls to Glasgow; a mile and a half up North River, across the bridge and a mile and a half back again. Drive at the speed limit.

"Glasgow to Natural Bridge, up James River by Greenlee to Natural Bridge Station and then the macadam road."

Industrial training, training which will fit a girl to do work in the home, which will fit a boy to work in the shop if in a city, to work on a farm if in the country, is the most important of all training, aside from that which develops character; and it is a grave reproach to us as a nation that we have permitted our training to lead the children away from the farm and shop instead of toward them. We should try to provide the many with training in their professions, just as the few, the doctors, the ministers, the lawyers, are trained for their profession. In other words, the school system should be aimed primarily to fit the scholar for actual life rather than for a university.—Theodore Roosevelt.

A paste of chloride of lime and water, allowed to remain on a few minutes before removing, will clean ink stains from silver.

INSTITUTE AGAIN IN THE HIGHEST PLACE

Virginia's Noted Military School
Receives Praise

FROM U. S. ARMY OFFICER

Is Listed Next to West Point in
Military Efficiency

"Listed next to West Point in military efficiency" is the report once more made by the United States Army officer who conducted this year's inspection of the Virginia Military Institute. The report of Captain B. T. Simmons of the general staff, the inspecting officer, has just been issued.

"Class A distinguished," says Captain Simmons of the famous school. He states that the Institute is essentially military, with a high degree of importance attached to military instruction by the faculty, the cadets being required to be constantly in uniform. The military spirit, he finds, is excellent, as is the zeal with which military duty is performed. The training, he says, is fully sufficient to qualify the average graduate for a lieutenant of volunteers.

The general appearance at inspection, continues Captain Simmons, was excellent, and the "cadets themselves are neat, intelligent, soldierly in bearing and impressed me very favorably."

The report is especially gratifying to Superintendent E. W. Nichols, Commandant S. R. Gleaves and the members of the Board of Visitors, especially in view of the fact that the number at this year's inspection was unusually small, due to the dismissal of practically an entire class. It is stated that matriculations this year will be sufficient to fill the barracks to capacity.

Details of the inspection are as follows:

"I inspected 199 cadets, organized as a battalion of four companies. The band is composed of civilians.

"The review was excellent. The march in review in quick time was excellent; in double time, very good. The clothing and rifles were in excellent condition.

"The cadets are well set up, and are military in appearance and conduct. During my two days' stay at the Institute I saw no failure on the part of a cadet to properly salute an officer.

"Sentinels walk post day and night. Those inspected were very well instructed.

"Quarters, dining hall, kitchen, etc., were in very good condition.

"Signaling with buzzer, flag and heliograph, excellent.

"Battalion and company close and extended order drills, bayonet exercises, rifle drill, squad drills by non-commissioned officers, guard mounting, battalion parade and pitching wall and shelter tents, excellent.

"Advance and rear guard duty and patrolling are understood.

"Litter drill and first aid to the injured, excellent.

"The field exercise, involving defense of a position covering a defile, advance guard, outposts, patrolling, forcing a defile, attacking of position and practical work by signal detachment was had. The work of the cadets in these exercises was very good. Correct written reports were sent in by the patrols. Messages were sent by the buzzer and telephone. Excellent position and road sketches and road reports were made by cadets. These sketches were later traced for blue printing.

"All cadets have had gallery practice and range practice at 200 yards."

Gen. John R. Castleman, veteran of the Southern Confederacy and of the Spanish-American war, if he lives 15 months, probably will be the first Kentuckian who ever saw an equestrian statue of himself erected. Of the estimated cost—\$15,000—a fund of \$9,000 already has been subscribed. The statue, which is designed to honor General Castleman for his service as park commissioner of Louisville, is expected to be completed by October, 1912.

SOME BENEFITS FROM RECIPROCITY TREATY

Removal of Duties Will Open Wider
Fields of Commerce

Everyone can see the benefit to be derived from a free and unrestricted interchange of commodities between the United States and Canada. The removal of tariff duties, which in some instances have been proven prohibitive, must open wider fields for the commerce of both countries, and, since the balance of trade is in our favor, it must insure to the general advantage of the United States. But there are specific advantages, which the New York World has admirably stated, and from which statement we have prepared the following summary:

1. Reciprocity will admit free wheat, rye, oats, barley, buckwheat, peas, beans and corn upon which there is a present schedule of duties varying from 10 to 45 cents a bushel.

2. It will admit free cattle, horses, mules, sheep and swine, removing a duty averaging, approximately, 25 per cent.

3. It will admit free all vegetables now taxed at from 25 to 40 cents a bushel.

4. It will admit free all kinds of fish and products of the sea, lifting the present duties of from one-fourth to one cent per pound.

5. It will place upon the free list pulp wood, print paper and lumber, and will reduce the tariff on leather from 20 to 10 cents per 1,000, and on shingles from 50 to 30 cents per 1,000.

6. It will reduce the duties on fresh and smoked meats, canned vegetables and flour.

From the above statement of the effect of reciprocity upon the necessities of life it seems to us apparent that the result of the treaty can only be beneficial to the masses of the people. At any rate, the people at large believe so and, if it shall prove otherwise, they will be greatly surprised.—Richmond Virginian.

Two Remarkable Snake Stories

A dispatch from Flat Rock, Va., embraces the following snake stories:

A. C. Campbell killed an unusually large female snake in his potato patch and noticed that the stomach was strangely bloated. Being of an inquisitive turn of mind, Campbell cut the snake open and an amazing sight caught his eyes. Out of the belly of the dead reptile crawled fifty-four young snakes representing every known variety in Virginia. There were two dozen black snakes, about one dozen garter snakes, and numerous spotted snakes, grass snakes and young water snakes, and one small rattler.

It is believed that the snake Campbell killed had lost its own young and gone on a rampage through the neighborhood killing all the other snakes it met, and swallowing their young whole, out of revenge.

V. L. Weatherholtz, of the same neighborhood, killed big black snake a few hours later and having heard Campbell's experience, cut his snake open, too. Inside the stomach he found ten partridge eggs unbroken and a full grown bird of the yellow hamper species. Weatherholtz's find is regarded as proof positive that a snake has the power to charm a bird.

What Man is Made Of

All of us remember the nursery rhyme beginning "What are little boys made of." Recently a European medical scientist undertook to decide, chemically, what the average weight man, in normal condition would be worth as practical "raw" material were he to be worked up into everyday commodities. He reports a widely scattered assortment of utilities into which this average man may be wrought.

This average man in health has the material for 13 pounds of candles, 1 pound of nails, carbon sufficient for eight hundred pencils, bindings for 16 octavo books, 500 knife handles, 28 violin strings, 20 teaspoonfuls of salt and 1 pound of loaf sugar.